

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Elektrochemisches Kombinat, Bitterfeld	DATE DISTR.	14 May 1953
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DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
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1. Purest Calcium

The production of purest calcium is to be resumed, and at the present moment the old calcium distillation plant is being overhauled to see how much replacement is required and when production can be expected to begin.

2. Magnesium

The plan to produce magnesium metal has been dropped.

3. Sodium

The EKB was recently visited by its former chief director, Fyodorov¹ who asked for a complete report on the sodium metal electrolysis plant and process, (production of sodium by the EKB was recently stopped). It was reported that he said the report was required because production using the same process was being currently undertaken in the U.S.S.R. He also said that this information had been asked for by the head of the research section of U.S.I.G., (fnu) Kononov.

4. Chlorination kiln

This research task, which is also the last directly Russian-inspired one remaining with the works, is now in its last stages. Difficulties were initially experienced with the heating arrangements and then with the feed mechanism for the reaction mixture, (a mixture of fine powdered material and small briquettes), but these have now been solved. The kiln goes into its final test during the course of the next two weeks (sic).

5. Fertilizer plant

The Nitrophos fertilizer plant plan² has been re-adopted. It is hoped that the plant will be built and in operation by the end of 1953 and it is intended that East Germany will get about 100 metric tons per year of cerium oxide from one of the by-products.

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6. Zirconium oxide

The EKB recently received a request from Werk fuer Fernmeldewesen HF (OSW) for information on the production of titanium - free zirconium oxide, which it intended to process itself. It was stated that the presence of even traces of Ti would interfere with the work being done.

7. The EKB succeeded in fulfilling its years' planned production target by 1 December 1952.

9. Personnela. Directorate of Labor (Arbeitsdirektion)³

This directorate has now been formally set up. It is divided into four departments:

1. Department for organizational preplanning and norm setting (Abteilung fuer organisatorische Vorplanung und Arbeitsnormierung).
2. Pay branch (Abteilung Lohn).
3. Department for social and cultural questions (Abteilung fuer soziale u. kulturelle Fragen).
4. Department for trade training (Abteilung Berufs-Ausbildung).

b. The Officers responsible are:

1. Director: Baerwinkel, Oswald
2. Organization and Planning: Linhart, Hans
3. Pay: Rybak, Roman (temporary)
4. Social and Cultural: Machill, Guenther (temporary)
5. Trade training: Diehlmann, Jakob, Chem. Ing.

c. It is stated that none of these officers are qualified for the posts they hold. Even in the case of Diehlmann, the title Chem. Ing. has been adopted without academic authority.

d. Other personnel changes:

1. Dr. Wehner has been appointed successor to Dr. Schulze as inorganic research group leader.
2. Dr. Bauer has been appointed manager for light metal production.
3. Dr. Ostermann has been appointed manager for light metal working.
4. Dr. Seipold⁴ (at present in Berlin) is the new director of research.
5. Dr. Ehlers is to take Dr. Seipold's old position.
6. Dr. Wieck will become departmental manager of laboratory scale research.
7. Dr. Hennig⁵ will become departmental manager of pilot-plant scale research.
8. Dipl. Chem. Dombois will succeed Dr. Bornhak as works manager of Chlor III. Dr. Bornhak will become a group leader.
9. Werner Schulz, formerly of Hydrierwerk, Rodleben, will become the new manager of the personnel department.

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10. Gold on SED party badge.

The S.E.D. party badge is mainly composed of red enamel. This red enamel is produced by the enamels department of EKB. It is then supplied to a small private firm which makes the badges. The red enamel used consists of a "Gold-Rubin", which is a glass colored red by small quantities of colloidal gold. The gold needed was supplied to EKB by this small private firm, and the firm in its turn bought the gold on the black [redacted]

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The whole transaction was carried out in the utmost secrecy, as it was directly contrary to the orders of the S.E.D. There was, however, no source of gold other than black market gold available to the firms in question. The badges have been produced, and so far, no questions have been asked.

1. [redacted] Comment: [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] Fyodorov left EKB and was reported to be at Bunawerke, Schkopau. [redacted] however, reports that Fedorov (Fyodorov) was transferred in the spring of 1952 to the Leuna works as general director.

2. [redacted] Comment: [redacted] a plant for the production of Nitrophos, an artificial fertilizer made from apatite was under construction (June-July 1952). [redacted] 25X1
Reported it had been decided not to construct the new fertilizer works.

3. [redacted] Comment: The personnel department was renamed the Abteilung fuer Arbeit [redacted]

4. [redacted] Comment: [redacted] Dr. Otto Siepold, mentioned [redacted] as chief chemist of EKB.

5. [redacted] Comment: [redacted] Dr. Bruno Hennig, reported [redacted] as a returnee from the USSR who was appointed head of research and development in organic chemistry at EKB.

6. [redacted] 25X1

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Russian Order for Pure Selenic and Telluric Acids at Elektrochemisches Kombinat, Bitterfeld.	DATE DISTR.	14 May 1953
		NO. OF PAGES	1
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT	25X1
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Russian research assignment at Elektrochemisches Kombinat Bitterfeld concerning the production of very pure selenic and telluric acids was cancelled without any explanation and cancelled by telegram from SAC headquarters at Weissensee. More recent information indicates that the telegram referred to the production of selenium for rectifiers. The selenic and telluric acids were produced and shipped.

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